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**SCHWARZENBERG CONSTRUCTION OFFICE AND ITS
ACTIVITIES IN THE SECOND HALF OF THE 19TH CENTURY**

Theses of Doctoral Dissertation

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Theme and main topic of the doctoral thesis

This dissertation is devoted to the topic of aristocratic architecture in the second half of the 19th century, using the example of the Schwarzenberg building administration and its activities. The work approximates the history of the family and the property development of the Schwarzenberg domains up to the 19th century. A wide space is dedicated to the development of the management of Schwarzenberg properties and construction management, which is an integral part of it. The work further approximates the personality of Prince Jan Adolf II. and his son and successor, Prince Adolf Josef. Just Prince Jan Adolf II. during his reign from 1833-1888 he had to face many hardships brought by the long 19th century. The abolition of serfdom in 1848 was essential, and I will destroy the entire lordly administration. Jan Adolf II threatened to lose his position. he got rid of it with extensive reforms of management on large estates and reforms of their management. The modernization and construction of new modern industrial buildings, especially breweries, sugar factories, mills, sawmills, bakeries and dairies, were not left out. The modernization of the economy brought new demands on agricultural buildings, i.e. farmyards, as well as buildings related to forestry operations. The increase in the number of inhabitants in the monitored period was then reflected in the need to increase the capacity of civil amenities buildings, i.e. churches and schools. All these buildings were designed by the Schwarzenberg construction office, represented in particular by the Construction Directorate in Český Krumlov and its employees. Individual examples from practice then show the rebuilding of Hluboká and Vimperk castles or the construction of patronage buildings. The work is closed with visual and textual appendices.

The building activities of the Schwarzenberg primogeniture in the second half of the 19th and the first half of the 20th century represent an extremely attractive research topic for several reasons. First and foremost, the Schwarzenbergs were the largest and richest family in Bohemia, and even after the abolition of serfdom in 1848, which practically meant the

disintegration of the upper-class economy and administration, they managed to transform their economical household. The family was undoubtedly very fortunate to present probably the strongest generation in the history of the family during this period. From 1833, the Schwarzenberg primogeniture was headed by Jan Adolf II. of Schwarzenberg (1799-1888), who was an excellent farmer and administrator of the family heirloom. His younger brother Felix (1800-1852) is known as a diplomat and prime minister from 1848-1852, and his third brother Bedřich (1809-1885) made a name for himself in the field of ecclesiastical administration when he was Archbishop of Salzburg from 1835 and Archbishop of Prague from 1850-1885.

It is admirable that by implementing modern farming and management methods, John Adolph II was able to replace the loss of 2/3 of his land and more than 230,000 subjects. In terms of building activities, he was particularly responsible for the reconstruction of the Hluboká Castle in the spirit of romantic historicism or the construction of the family tomb in Domanín u Třeboně. Although he had an experienced building apparatus at his disposal, he entrusted the preparation of these two buildings, or rather their architectural designs, to the Viennese builders Franz Beer in the case of the Hluboká castle and Friedrich Schmidt in the case of the family tomb in Domanín.

In the new times, the Schwarzenberg building administration was also newly formed, which had a long tradition in the middle of the 19th century. Since the 18th century, it had operated on a kind of two-track model, where part of the building office was part of the central princely administrative bodies, and at the same time individual estates had their own builders and surveyors who dealt with the daily building agenda. This system was further consolidated and developed with the deepening centralisation of administration in the 19th century.

The transformation of the Schwarzenberg economy and the development of the administration after 1848 is linked to the personality

of Prince Jan Adolf II. of Schwarzenberg, who was a resourceful and successful economist. His personality is also linked to the 19th century boom in Schwarzenberg construction, which was unparalleled in terms of scale and quality in the Czech lands. The basis of the Schwarzenberg wealth undoubtedly laid in the possession of land. At the beginning of the 20th century, the Schwarzenberg primogeniture owned 218,445.84 ha of land, whereas the Colloredo-Mansfelds farmed only a quarter of it. The exclusive position of the family was also reflected in its economic, economic or construction strategy, the beginnings of which can be found in the formative years of the personality of Prince Jan Adolf II.

After the death of John Adolf II in 1888, his son Adolf Josef of Schwarzenberg took the position of the head of the Schwarzenberg primogeniture. He first served in the army and later turned to politics and property management. He achieved to manage the forest estates in a profitable way, not leaving aside the rapidly developing industry, which he successfully supported on his estates. Adolf Josef of Schwarzenberg died in 1914, a year that heralded a new order that promised a difficult future for the nobility.

From the point of view of the construction and patronage administration of the Schwarzenberg primogeniture, Adolf Josef of Schwarzenberg basically continued his father's strategy, even literally, by continuing to implement the buildings in progress and the direction he had set.

Methods and sources of the Dissertation

The presented work deals with the phenomenon of Schwarzenberg architecture from several perspectives. In the introductory part of the thesis, the aim is to introduce the reader to the Schwarzenberg family and their property background, especially in the Czech lands. The second part of the thesis deals with the Schwarzenberg administration first in general terms, then from the perspective of the integration of the building administration into the whole bureaucratic system, with detailed biographies of the staff.

From about half of its length, the work presents the daily activities of Schwarzenberg building officials in the period under review through specific selected examples. The first example is a crucial event in the history of Schwarzenberg construction, namely the reconstruction of Hluboká Castle. This major and extremely demanding project proved that the Schwarzenbergs were capable of building anything, even in difficult social conditions, including this lofty mansion, which is still a symbol of the family. The next case shows the construction administration at Vimperk Castle from the earliest times until the 20th century, with the turning point of this case being the fact that a large fire broke out at the castle in 1857 and its subsequent repair and reconstruction was dealt with. Interestingly, the construction at both castles, i.e. in Vimperk and Hluboká, took place at practically the same time with a completely different, albeit responsible, approach. The last part of the thesis illustrates in several cases the topic of patronage churches, whose common denominator in the second half of the 19th century was the lack of capacity due to the increase in population.

The aim of the presented work is to present a comprehensive overview of the Schwarzenberg building administration in the second half of the 19th century. It was the idyllic setting of the Schwarzenberg estates,

the waning romanticism and pervasive historicism, the social and political changes after 1848 and the subsequent modernisation of the economy that brought about the unique and unrepeatable conditions in which the phenomenon of 19th century Schwarzenberg building was born.

My work is based on literature and sources stored in the South Bohemian archives, especially in the State Regional Archive in Třeboň. For the purposes of the thesis, I used mainly archival funds related to the Schwarzenberg central administration and then the funds of individual estates. When searching for personal data, I also used the civil registers stored in the Třeboň archive.

Objectives and results of the Research

In this thesis I have aimed to fulfil its topic and objectives, i.e. to present the Schwarzenberg building office and its provenance in the second half of the 19th century. It is a topic at the intersection of architectural history, art history, history of everyday life, history of administration, regional history and local history, and history of the nobility. I have adhered to keep to the defined time period in which I have concentrated the core of the work presented. In order to understand the building activities of any chieftaincy or nobility, as well as any other building office with a wider scope, it is necessary to define the region and the scope of activity fairly precisely, as well as to introduce and briefly summarise the personalities and events associated with the area.

After their arrival in Bohemia in the third quarter of the 17th century, the Schwarzenbergs more or less established the base and regional boundaries of their dominions by the first third of the 18th century. These can be divided into three geographical areas. The first of these is the area of the estates of Protivín, Hluboká and Třeboň, and later Libějovice and Netolice, which extends practically from Písek to beyond Třeboň and in the south beyond Netolice towards Prachatice. The second more comprehensive area is Český Krumlov, Vimperk, Volary with large parts of Šumava. The third area of the North Bohemian estates is concentrated between the towns of Louny, Žatec, Rakovník and Slaný.

The administration of such a large domain naturally required an extensive network of officials who comprehensively managed the individual estates. Along with the development of the state administration during the 18th century, the demands of the state on the administration of the upper classes grew and tended towards its centralisation. From about the middle of the 18th century, the Schwarzenberg administration was also centrally managed, with individual duties remaining with the administration of the manor. This dichotomy continued even after the abolition of serfdom and the

subsequent changes that took place after 1848, with which the princely administration had to cope.

The Schwarzenberg building administration developed as part of the administration of the nobility in more or less the same way, and after the middle of the 18th century it also developed along two tracks - at the central and at the regional level. In addition to his own officials, the prince hired more renowned builders, usually from Vienna, for particularly exposed buildings. This practice is associated with the two most important epochs in the history of Schwarzenberg construction, namely the first third of the 18th century and the second half of the 19th century.

The personality of Prince Jan Adolf II of Schwarzenberg and of his son and successor Prince Adolf Josef of Schwarzenberg is essential for the second stage.

Jan Adolf II.'s success was based on a clear vision that had already been formed during his English travels. Modern farming on agricultural and forest land, complemented by investment in industry and transport, was the only way to move forward. Jan Adolf II. understood this and took every step to bring the situation under control. Part of his path was to create a modern construction office that would translate all the innovations and needs into purposeful buildings that would serve as one of the means of overall modernisation. To this end, in 1851, John Adolph II clearly defined the activities of the Construction Directorate in Český Krumlov, which for the next 40 years designed all major buildings of princely provenance.

The Český Krumlov Construction Directorate was first headed by Wilhelm Nevenhorst and after him by Damasus Deworezky. Deworezky is a key figure, as he worked at the construction directorate from the late 1840s until his death in 1891. After Franz Beer, he took over and led the reconstruction of Hluboká and from the 1860s also led the entire building directorate. It was Deworezky's exceptionalism and talent that pushed the activities of the building directorate to a top level, which was perhaps

unrivalled except for the Liechtenstein projects on the South Moravian estates of Lednice and Valtice. These, however, belong rather to the earlier period before the middle of the 19th century.

The generational exchange at the head of the Schwarzenberg House at the end of the 1880s brought with it organizational changes in the building administration. The Český Krumlov Construction Directorate was formally divided into three construction sections, Český Krumlov, Hluboká and Citoliby. The first two were actually established, while the Citoliby section was later replaced by the Prague section. The new division corresponded to the geographical distribution of the individual estates and can thus be described as logical. The leading role of the princely building department was taken over by the building department in Hluboká, headed by Jan Sedláček, who had previously worked in the abolished directorate. It was Jan Sedláček who managed to build on Deworezky's work and is the author of many projects, especially in the 1890s and the late 1920s, which bear the original Schwarzenberg handwriting.

In addition to the activities and personnel of the princely construction offices, the work presented here illustrates the daily activities of the office, or rather the entire Schwarzenberg construction administration, through selected examples of implementation, where, in addition to the detailed construction of the Hlubok castle, the restoration of the interest in Vimperk at the turn of the 1850s and 1860s is described. Patronage buildings were not left aside either, which is illustrated especially by the example of the restoration of the parish in Krč u Protivín, which was practically manifested by the construction of a new parish building and a major reconstruction of the church.

Main sources

SOA Třeboň, oddělení Třeboň, fond velkostatek Třeboň

SOA Třeboň, oddělení Třeboň, fond velkostatek Protivín

SOA Třeboň, sbírka matrik Jihočeského kraje

SOA Třeboň, oddělení Český Krumlov, fond Ústřední stavební správa

SOkA Český Krumlov, fond Farní úřad Křemže

SOkA Písek, fond Farní úřad Krč

SOkA Písek, fond Okresní úřad v Písku

Archive of the author

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